Disparity in Per Capita Expenditure in the Country

1350. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any disparity in the per capita expenditure incurred in rural and urban areas ;

(b) if so,the proportion thereof ;

(c) whether Government propose to set up any commission to couduct a survey to remove this disparity ; and

(d) if so, by when the commission is likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (b) As per the results of the National Sample Survey for 1990-91, there is a disparity in the per capita household consumer expenditure in rural and urban areas. The proportion of rural expenditure to that in urban areas for 1990-91 was 0.62.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Employment to Women in Rural and Urban Areas

1351. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan providing employment to women in rural and urban areas ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) what are the details of women Development Corporations in each State including Delhi ;

(d) whether Government propose to reserve more percentage in Government and Public Sector for SC and ST woman ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (b) Employment is one of the thrust areas of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97). Accordingly, a growth strategy for accelerated employment generation is envisaged in the Plan. The strategy for employment of women has been integrated with the overall employment strategy. In addition, steps are being taken to expand training opportunities for women to enhance their access to employment. Special employment programmes being implemented for women include (i) Support to Training-cum-Employment Programme, (ii) Setting up of Employment and Income Genreating-cum-Production Centres for women (iii) Socio-Economic Programme for women, (iv) Women's Development Corporations, and (v) a Sub-Scheme of Integrated Rural Develppment Programme (IRDP) called Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA). Women form a special target group in poverty alleviation programmes. Forty percent of the beneficiaries covered under IRDP and 30% of the beneficiaries under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) in the rural areas are to be women. Under DWCRA, women belonging to families below poverty line are encouraged to form groups to undertake income generating activities. The scheme is being implemented in 352 districts of the country as on 30-9-1993.

In the urban areas, the Ministry of Urban Development has been implementing Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) since October, 1989. The Yojana has three schemes viz., (i) Scheme of Urban Micro Enter prises (SUME), (ii) Scheme of Urban Wage Employment (SUWE) and (iii) Scheme of Housing and Shelter upgradation (SHASU). The Yojana has been designed to generate self-employment and Wage Employment opportunities for the urban poor living below the Poverty line. While the target group of the Yojana is urban poor. Women beneficiaries and beneficiaries belonging to SC/STs constitute special target groups. It is expected that broadly 30% of the beneficiaries under SUME and SHASU are women. Further,

under SUME women beneficiaries are eligible to a subsidy ceiling of Rs. 5,000 as compared to Rs. 4,000 available to general category beneficiaries.

(c) The scheme for Women Development Corporation was formulated in 1986-87. These Corporations are expected to play catalytic role in identifying women entrepreuners, providing technical consultancy services, facilitating availability of credits, promoting marketing of products and strengthening Women's Cooperatives, arranging training facilities etc. So far 16 Women Development Corporations have been set up in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and U.T. of Chandigarh. No such Corporation has been set up in Delhi. This scheme has been transferred to States with effect from 1992-93 as per decision of the National Development Council.

(d) and (e) There is already reservation of 15% and 7½% of jobs in the Central services and Public sector undertakings for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively. Women belonging to these communities are deserving the benefit from this reservation.

Shift in the Objective Set Out in the Fire Year Plans

1352. SHRI PARAMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a shift in the objectives set out in various Five Year Plans ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) what are the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) to (c) The basic objectives of Five Year Plans have been growth, modernisation, self reliance and social justice. Relative emphasis on these had varied in the Five Year Plans with the changes in economic situations and the requirements of the country.

Regional Imbalence in the Country

1353. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the problem of regional imbalance in the country ;

(b) if so, what are the highlights of the assessment ;

(c) what has been the impact of Sixth and Seventh Five Year Plans in narrowing down regional imbalance ; and

(d) what strategy has been adopted by Government in the Eighth Five Year Plan for balanced regional development ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANGO) : (a) to (d) Development of an area and allocation of funds for this purpose is primarily the responsibiltiy of the concerned State Government. However the Cnetral Government helps the States in overcoming the problems of regional imbalances by programmes such as Hill Area Development Programme. Drought Prone Area Progremme etc., in addition to providing weightage for backwardness in the formula used for resources transfer which has been modified for the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Growth Rate in the Country

1354. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) what is the target growth rate during the sixth, seventh and the Annual Plans 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 ;

(b) what is the growth rate realised during the above plans ;

(c) what are the reasons for low growth rates during recent years ; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to accelerate the growth rate ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI